



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

let the press lend its powerful, almost omnipresent influence; let religious editors not only open their columns to the cause, but indite articles of their own in its behalf; let the pulpit open its peaceful but most effective battery upon the public mind; let ministers of every name take the cause under their patronage, and labor for it as they do for that of missions or temperance; let Christians as a body come up to this work in earnest, and take hold of it as their own appropriate work; let those who profess an interest in this object, organize themselves into societies or committees to co-operate with us by raising funds, procuring lectures, and circulating our publications; let churches remember this cause as they do others in their prayers, and contribute steadily to its funds; let the widow give her mite, and the rich their scores or hundreds of dollars; let the friends of peace spontaneously unite in petitioning government to provide, in arbitration or a Congress of Nations, ample substitutes for the sword; let preachers, and editors, and all that deprecate a calamity so fearful, combine at once, by prompt and decided remonstrances, to resist any and every war that may be threatened; let all this be done, as it easily could, and probably not another war would ever desolate our land.

CIRCULAR TO GOVERNORS.

OFFICE OF THE AMERICAN PEACE SOCIETY, }
 BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 28th, 1843. }

To His Excellency,

Governor of the State of

SIR,—You are aware that for a series of years associated efforts have been made by philanthropists in both hemispheres, to abolish the custom of international war. In the prosecution of this great benevolent design, a General Convention of Delegates from different countries was held last June in London, to deliberate on the best means of promoting universal and permanent peace; and among the resolves then passed, was one, calling upon Peace Societies in every country to address their respective rulers, especially on the importance of endeavoring to supersede the necessity of war by the principle of arbitration applied to nations, substantially, as it now is to individuals.

In fulfilment of the duty thus devolved upon us, the American Peace Society presume to address your Excellency, and very respectfully solicit your influence, and that of the State over which you preside, in securing an object immensely important, not only to our own country, but to the whole human race. The Convention itself addressed a Memorial to the governments of the civilized world, on the importance of inserting in every treaty between nations, a clause which should bind the high contracting parties to settle whatever disputes might arise between them, by reference, in the last resort, to umpires mutually chosen. This appeal to the justice, humanity, and good sense of Christian rulers, has already been presented to the leading cabinets of the Old World, by whom it was in every case received with favor; it is now on its way to our own national government, from the executive and legislative branches of which, we anticipate a reception, certainly not less favorable than it has met from crowned heads; and, inasmuch as your State has a common interest in this matter, and is wont, on similar questions of general concernment, to express its opinions and wishes through its own Legislature, we beg leave, through your Excellency, very respectfully to bring this subject before them for their special consideration, and for such action as their collected wisdom may judge best.

This request we conceive to be in obvious accordance with the present, and still more with the prospective demands of public sentiment. War is fast going into disrepute; the people are beginning to view it in its proper light, as their worst enemy; the world is awaking to a juster sense of its fearful crimes and woes; even kings are at length shrinking from this long-cherished, time-honored game of blood; and should public opinion continue to change as rapidly as it has the last twenty years, Christendom, fifty years hence, will hardly tolerate another appeal to arms, but will supersede its alleged necessity by the adoption of substitutes like the one we now propose.

We will only add, that the precise point to which we solicit attention, may be seen in a single extract from the proceedings of the Convention, viz: "That this Convention earnestly recommends to governments, members of legislative bodies, and public functionaries, the adoption of the principle of arbitration for the adjustment of all international differences; and that stipulations be introduced into all international treaties, to provide for this mode of adjustment, whereby recourse to war may be entirely avoided between such nations as shall agree to abide by such stipulation."

In behalf of the American Peace Society, and by direction of its Executive Committee, I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's obedient servant,

GEO. C. BECKWITH, *Corresponding Secretary.*